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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

April 15, 2015

Ms. Dana Dean P.E., Associate Director of Mining  
Utah State Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
Department of Natural Resources  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
PO Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116-5801

RE: M/047/0090, PR Springs Mine, U.S. Oil Sands (Utah) Inc.

Dear Associate Director Dean:

I am writing in support of U. S. Oil Sands (Utah) Inc.'s (U.S. Oil Sands) development of bituminous-asphaltic sands on Utah State School and Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA) in the PR Springs area of Uintah County.

U.S. Oil Sands, beginning in 2005, has held leases on SITLA lands and has worked diligently towards completing exploration, research and permitting to actively bring these lands into economic production. The SITLA land base in this area of PR Springs is an extensive block acquired by exchanging other mineral rich lands into this block with the intent and knowledge of all parties that the mineral resource on these lands would be developed.

U.S. Oil Sands currently holds 32,000 acres of trust lands under lease. Their activities on this land include: 1) completion of a field pilot test performed under a Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (UDOGM) Small Mine Permit in November 2005; 2) September of 2006 electrical resistivity tomography project to delineate general bitumen targets and oil sand deposition in the PR Springs area; 3) 2009 U.S Oil Sands received their Large Mine Permit approval from UDOGM; 4) June of 2011 a 180 core-hole drill program evaluated water supply; and 5) in May to October, 2012, U.S. Oil Sands cored an additional 37 holes to develop the commercial water supply and define their surface miner operation configuration. Since May 2014, U.S. Oil Sands has been engaged in site preparation and construction of the PR Springs Plant.

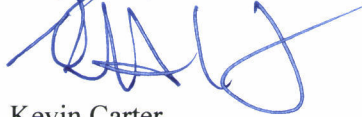
On April 7, 2015, UDOGM granted tentative approval of a revision of the NOI to commence Large Mining Operations to U.S. Oil Sands PR Springs Mine (M/047/0090). I believe this action taken by UDOGM was prudent and agree that the revision to the NOI will enable U.S. Oil Sands to change mining sequencing operations to reduce the amount of overburden and interburden which will facilitate concurrent reclamation

and minimize the mine foot print. SITLA has reviewed the NOI and NOI revision and is satisfied from the "landowner 's" perspective that the environmental impacts have been properly identified and mitigated through the DOGM, UDEQ and State of Utah Resources Development Coordinating Committee processes.

SITLA is eager for the development of this mining operation to move forward in order that the mineral wealth of the lands may be exploited for the purposes designated by Utah Code.

I thank the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kevin Carter  
Director

cc:

Sindy Smith, Acting Director  
Resource Development Coordinating Committee  
E-210 State Capitol Complex  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

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